

SA 3927. Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1064. NOTIFICATIONS AND REPORTS REGARDING REPORTED CASES OF BURN PIT EXPOSURE.

(a) QUARTERLY NOTIFICATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—On a quarterly basis, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on each reported case of burn pit exposure by a covered veteran reported during the previous quarter.

(2) ELEMENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to each reported case of burn pit exposure of a covered veteran included in the report, the following:

(A) Notice of the case, including the medical facility at which the case was reported.

(B) Notice of, as available—

(i) the enrollment status of the covered veteran with respect to the patient enrollment system of the Department of Veterans Affairs under section 1705(a) of title 38, United States Code;

(ii) a summary of all health care visits by the covered veteran at the medical facility at which the case was reported that are related to the case;

(iii) the demographics of the covered veteran, including age, sex, and race;

(iv) any non-Department of Veterans Affairs health care benefits that the covered veteran receives;

(v) the Armed Force in which the covered veteran served and the rank of the covered veteran;

(vi) the period in which the covered veteran served;

(vii) each location of an open burn pit from which the covered veteran was exposed to toxic airborne chemicals and fumes during such service;

(viii) the medical diagnoses of the covered veteran and the treatment provided to the veteran; and

(ix) whether the covered veteran is registered in the Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry.

(3) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall ensure that the reports submitted under paragraph (1) do not include the identity of covered veterans or contain other personally identifiable data.

(b) ANNUAL REPORT ON CASES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in collaboration with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing the following:

(A) The total number of covered veterans.

(B) The total number of claims for disability compensation under chapter 11 of title 38, United States Code, approved and the total number denied by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs with respect to a covered veteran, and for each such denial, the rationale of the denial.

(C) A comprehensive list of—

(i) the conditions for which covered veterans seek treatment; and

(ii) the locations of the open burn pits from which the covered veterans were exposed to toxic airborne chemicals and fumes.

(D) Identification of any illnesses relating to exposure to open burn pits that formed the basis for the Secretary to award benefits, including entitlement to service connection or an increase in disability rating.

(E) The total number of covered veterans who died after seeking care for an illness relating to exposure to an open burn pit.

(F) Any updates or trends with respect to the information described in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), (D), and (E) that the Secretary determines appropriate.

(2) MATTERS INCLUDED IN FIRST REPORT.—The Secretary shall include in the first report under paragraph (1) information specified in subsection (a)(2) with respect to reported cases of burn pit exposure made during the period beginning January 1, 1990, and ending on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) INCLUSION OF INFORMATION AFTER DEATH AND PROVISION OF INFORMATION REGARDING OPEN BURN PIT REGISTRY.—Section 201(a) of the Dignified Burial and Other Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-260; 38 U.S.C. 527 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(3) REPORTING OF INFORMATION AFTER DEATH.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall permit a survivor of a deceased veteran to report to the registry under paragraph (1) the exposure of the veteran to toxic airborne chemicals and fumes caused by an open burn pit, even if such veteran was not included in the registry before their death.

“(4) INFORMATION REGARDING REGISTRY.—

“(A) NOTICE.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure that a medical professional of the Department of Veterans Affairs informs a veteran of the registry under paragraph (1) if the veteran presents at a medical facility of the Department for treatment that the veteran describes as being related to, or ancillary to, the exposure of the veteran to toxic airborne chemicals and fumes caused by open burn pits.

“(B) DISPLAY.—In making information public regarding the number of participants in the registry under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall display such numbers by both State and by congressional district.”.

(d) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report containing an assessment of the effectiveness of any memorandum of understanding or memorandum of agreement entered into by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs with respect to—

(1) the processing of reported cases of burn pit exposure; and

(2) the coordination of care and provision of health care relating to such cases at medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs and at non-Department facilities.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry” means the registry established by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under section 201 of the Dignified Burial and Other Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-260; 38 U.S.C. 527 note).

(2) The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and

(B) The Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(3) The term “covered veteran” means a veteran who presents at a medical facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs (or in a non-Department facility pursuant to section 1703 or 1703A of title 38, United States Code) for treatment that the veteran describes as being related to, or ancillary to, the exposure of the veteran to toxic airborne chemicals and fumes caused by open burn pits at any time while serving in the Armed Forces.

(4) The term “open burn pit” has the meaning given that term in section 201(c) of the Dignified Burial and Other Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-260; 38 U.S.C. 527 note).

(5) The term “reported case of burn pit exposure” means each instance in which a veteran presents at a medical facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs (or in a non-Department facility pursuant to section 1703 or 1703A of title 38, United States Code) for treatment that the veteran describes as being related to, or ancillary to, the exposure of the veteran to toxic airborne chemicals and fumes caused by open burn pits at any time while serving in the Armed Forces.

SA 3928. Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. BLUNT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1064. APPOINTMENT OF ULYSSES S. GRANT TO GRADE OF GENERAL OF THE ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) On March 3, 1799, Congress created the grade of “General of the Armies of the United States” as the commander of the Army of the United States (5th Congress, Session III, Chap. 48, Section 9).

(2) On March 16, 1802, Congress effectively dissolved the grade of General of the Armies of the United States when it passed the Military Peace Establishment Act without reference to the grade (7th Congress, Session I, Chap. 9, Sec. 3).

(3) On July 1, 1843, Ulysses S. Grant graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, and, on July 31, 1854, Grant resigned from the Army at the grade of Captain.

(4) Following President Abraham Lincoln's April 15, 1861, proclamation calling for 75,000 volunteers to suppress Confederate forces, Ulysses S. Grant rejoined the Army and helped recruit and train volunteer soldiers for the Union.

(5) Over the course of the American Civil War, Ulysses S. Grant commanded a cumulative total of more than 600,000 Union soldiers and achieved major victories including Fort Henry (February 1862), Fort Donelson (February 1862), Shiloh (April 1862), the Vicksburg Campaign (November 1862–July 1863), Chattanooga (November 1863), the Wilderness Campaign (May 1864–June 1864), the Petersburg Campaign (June 1864–April 1865), and the Appomattox Campaign (April 1865).

(6) On February 29, 1864, Congress reestablished the grade of “Lieutenant-General of